

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 30, 2001 LB 827

Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Debate on the Bromm amendment? Senator Bromm, you're recognized to close. Senator Bromm waives closing. The question is the adoption of AM1192 to LB 827. Those in favor vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Bromm's amendment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The amendment is agreed to. Next item, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senators Wickersham and Bromm would like to offer AM1205. (Legislative Journal page 1270.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Bromm, you're recognized to open on AM1205.

SENATOR BROMM: Mr. President, this amendment is the amendment that I spoke of on General File as being the funding mechanism for providing some seed money or jump-starting the Internet Enhancement Fund. This is the fund which would be under the auspices and responsibility of the Public Service Commission and would be the fund that counties or cities could apply to for a grant in a matching fund arrangement so that they could enhance or provide more infrastructure for advanced telecommunications in their particular jurisdiction, whether it be the county or whether it be the jurisdiction of the city or municipality. We have the fund already set up in the bill. We have language, particularly in Sections 6 and 7, but we did not on General File provide any initial funding to get that fund started. This amendment would say that we're going to appropriate \$250,000 for start-up costs and seed money from General Funds. It, secondly, provides that the Public Service Commission, in conjunction with this fund, may receive gifts, contributions, property or equipment from public or private sources for the purposes of the fund. The fund would then consist of these gifts or grants or bequests and the approp...the initial appropriation. The alternative for this that we had discussed, and I had an